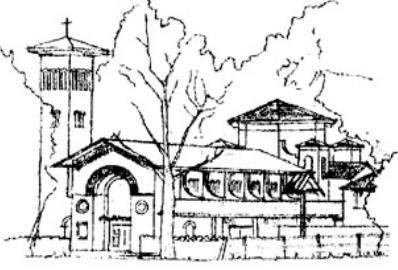
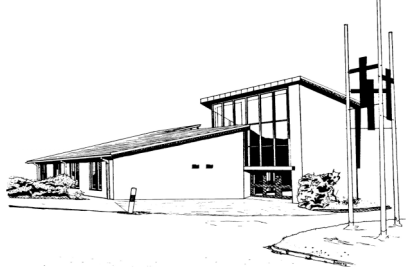


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center">Parish Clergy:</p> <p align="center">Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center">Fr Joseph Awoh (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p align="center">Registered Charity Number: 246871</p>	
<p>64 Liebenrood Road Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB Tel: 0118 957 2149 englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p align="center">RBH Chaplaincy - (Tel. 0118 3227105) Fr Chris Whelan Fr Richard Maniak (0118 9586637)</p>	<p>The Presbytery, Berkshire Drive Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 5JJ Tel: 0118 942 8632 - e-mail: sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING – YEAR B

21ST/22ND NOVEMBER 2009

On Tuesday I was at Madrid airport, changing planes on the way back to Heathrow. I don't know whether you have been through Madrid in recent years but a whole new terminal complex has been built and it is vast. There are signs which indicate that it could take you almost half an hour to get from where you landed to the gate from which your next flight will depart. As with most busy airports these days, you have the sense of people rushing from 'a' to 'b' – anxious about whether they are heading in the right direction, anxious not to miss a flight. There is movement, busyness and a sense of urgency. Hardly anyone looks as though they are enjoying themselves.

Today we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, our King. The readings give us food for thought about our destination, God's plan for the end of time. No matter what stage we have reached in this life, it does no harm to have an eye fixed on the future – we need to know what comes at the end, what we're heading for. This fits with the themes of November as we have been praying for those who have died, commending them to the Lord.

Then, next weekend we begin again by entering the Season of Advent. We will be constantly reminded of how many days remain before Christmas, we'll get anxious about whether we have everything ready, maybe we will feel mild panic at how much there is still to do. So why not set the tone for how we want to celebrate Advent by coming to St Joseph's Church next Sunday afternoon? As you should have seen on the back of recent Newsletters, we are offering a chance to be calm and reflect, combined with an *Advent Service* which starts at 3.30 pm. The opportunity is there, the invitation is open, but it is down to each of us as to whether we embrace that opportunity and come. The afternoon is designed for all ages and will include a Blessing of Advent Wreaths.

In the end, it is up to us as to how we celebrate the beautiful Season of Advent. It is in our hands to make the choice of whether to rush through the weeks ahead, just about managing to get what needs to be done completed, or approaching it in a more reflective way. The route we choose will impact on how we feel when Christmas draws near – frazzled or renewed?

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Henry O'Hare RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Susan Sweeney RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Dec'd Members of Daly Family
Rose Campbell RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Dec'd Members of Rowland & Ward Families
Josephine Quilty RIP	5.00 pm			
Mary O'Donoghue RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	All dec'd Members of parish
Mrs K. Neary's intentions	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Fr Kelleher RIP
Delia May RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Mairin Hayes RIP & Intentions of Sean Hayes & Family
Deceased members of the Sweeney Family RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Francis Zakary RIP
Louie Fearn's RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Kit Grant RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Marie O'Hora's Intentions
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Mon – Ss Clement & Columbanus Tues – Ss Andrew Dung-Lac & Comps Weds – St Catherine of Alexandria				
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT			Saturday 9.30-10 am	
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY			10.30-11 am
Responsorial Psalm: "The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 15TH NOVEMBER 2009

Gift Aid	£394.85
Planned Giving	£62.00
Loose Plate	£245.05
TF3	£9.51
Christmas Draw Money	£161.00
Candle Money	£48.86
Christmas Cards	£20.30
Bamenda	£4.80
Hall Hire	£263.00
TOTAL	£1,209.37
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£169.44
Bamenda	£595.09
TF3	£20.70

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 29th November are John O'Shea & Clare McSoley.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 27th November will be Talent Show Auditions.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Just a reminder to all parishioners: It would be much appreciated if you could contribute suitable Christmas items for the hampers. A large box is available in the Church porch for collection of all donations. Draw tickets are now available and proceeds from the draw will go to parish funds.

NOVEMBER – HOLY SOULS

Fr Joseph will be offering a number of designated Masses in November for the departed members of families, parishioners and friends. It is not possible to celebrate individual Masses for each family in the Parish. In addition to our general intention to include them in every Mass, the following Masses will be offered specifically for those named:

Monday, 23rd November at 8.30 am
Monday, 30th November at 8.30 am

CARMEN

Carmen will be celebrating her 25th Anniversary of entering the Servite Secular Institute on Saturday, 5th December. A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated at 3 pm at St Joseph's Church and all parishioners are invited. Refreshments will be available in the hall afterwards.

Carmen has indicated that she really does not want any gifts, but would encourage donations to the drop-in-centre, if people wish. There will be a basket at the back of the Church after the Celebration Mass for any such donations.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND REPOSITORY

A selection of cards, cribs, calendars, candles and other seasonal items for Advent and Christmas will be on sale after Masses in the small hall during November. Parish Christmas cards will also be on sale. *All profits will go to parish funds.*

ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

St Joseph's Convent School in Reading is holding an Open Morning for prospective parents and pupils on Thursday, 26th November from 9.15 am to 12.15 pm for all departments (ages 3 to 18). No appointment is necessary – simply drop in. Further details about St Joseph's can be found on their website: www.st-josephs-reading.sch.uk or by calling 0118 966 1000.

AN ADVENT CELEBRATION

An Advent Celebration at St Joseph's, Tilehurst, next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent. From 12 noon home-made soup and fresh bread will be available and at 1 pm, a short time of communal prayer and reflection. Then children of school age will enjoy separate, supervised creative activities, leaving adults free to make their own Advent wreaths and/or to experience different ways of guided or private prayer.

At 3.30 pm we will move from the hall to St Joseph's Church, where we hope others will join us in our annual Pastoral Area Advent Service. This is a 45 minute service of scripture, prayer and music based around the Advent Wreaths, which are then blessed before being taken home. Refreshments will be available after the service. There is no charge and booking is not essential.

Can volunteers who are able to bring soup to the event please co-ordinate with either Angela Wills or Catherine Harrington at English Martyrs Church.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Molly May Helen Clift, Alissa Maria Shoefield & Alexander David Shoefield who are being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

CHURCHES IN WEST READING

There will be carols at Tilehurst Triangle 6.30 pm on Tuesday, 22nd December. For further details please contact St Michael's Church Tilehurst - Giles Winter - gileswinter@talktalk.net - *Tony Bartlett, Cornwell Community Church.*

KNITWITS

The Knitwits would like to thank those of you who came to their 20th anniversary "get together".

We had a good afternoon and made £236.47 from the bring & buy, raffle, sale of Ann's cards, books and our donation bucket. This will go towards the cost of transporting our knitting along with other essential aid to wherever it is needed most. The lorries cost between £5,000 - £7,000 to send and distribute the aid in to the hands of the people who need it, but will contain goods to the value of £35,000 – so thank you again for your help with this life saving work – *Margaret Chaplin.*

CATHOLIC AUTUMN CONFERENCE WITH OPEN MIRACLE RALLY

On 5th/6th December a new season conference with open Miracle Rally will be held at the Salesian School, Highfield Road, Chertsey.

This is a two-day conference, which includes inspiring preaching, joyful praise and worship to God, Adoration, Holy Mass and a Healing ministry. This event has been organised by Cor et Lumen Christi Community.

For further information please can contact Cor et Lumen Christi Community on 01932 565 747 or www.coretlumenchristi.org.

SVP SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Will be held on Saturday 12th December in the English Martyrs Parish Centre from 1 - 4.30 pm. A light lunch will be served, followed by entertainment in the afternoon. Invitations are available after all Masses this weekend and next weekend at English Martyrs.

For further details relating to invitations for senior citizens in St Joseph's parish, please contact *Ev Brewester* on 942 2558.